

United States Department of the Interior

TAKE PRIDE'

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

New Mexico State Office 1474 Rodeo Road P.O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115 www.nm.blm.gov

In Reply Refer To:

1600 (100)

November 2005

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument which is administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rio Puerco Field Office. The document may also be available electronically at the following website: http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state_info/planning.htm. The plan provides alternatives for managing the natural and cultural resources and uses in the national monument, which was designated by Presidential Proclamation 7394 in 2001. Your careful review and comments are needed at this time to ensure that your concerns are considered in the planning process.

After considering public comments on this Draft RMP/EIS, the BLM will select the Proposed Plan. The plan can be any one alternative or a mixture of the actions and prescriptions from various alternatives. The agency will then release the Proposed RMP/Final EIS to the public, including responses to public comments received on the draft document.

In order for your comments to be considered in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, written comments must be postmarked no later than 90 days following the publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. Comments on the alternatives and the adequacy of the impact analysis are most useful when they address one or more of the following:

- Errors in the analysis;
- New information that would have a bearing on the analysis;
- Misinformation that could affect the outcome of the analysis;
- Requests for clarification; and/or
- A substantive new alternative whose mix of allocations differs from any of the existing alternatives.

Where possible, refer to the pages and paragraphs on which you are commenting. Specific comments will be most helpful. Those comments addressing the adequacy of the Draft RMP/EIS will be responded to in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.

To be considered, comment submissions must include a legible full name and street address. Anonymous comments will not be considered. Written comments may be mailed directly, or delivered to the BLM at:

Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument Draft RMP/EIS BLM Rio Puerco Field Office 435 Montaño Road NE Albuquerque, NM 87107-4935 Comments may be faxed to the BLM at: (505) 761-8911 or electronically mailed to:

NM_Comments@nm.blm.gov. Comments that are e-mailed or faxed must include "Comments on Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument DRMP/EIS" in the subject line. Comments may also be submitted electronically by accessing the BLM's planning website at

http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state_info/planning.htm. Interested parties may also provide written comments during the public open house meetings. In order to ensure that your comments are fully considered they should be submitted in one of the four ways described above.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the above address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays), and may be published as part of the EIS process. If you wish to withhold your name or street address, or both, from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Open house meetings will be scheduled to provide the public additional opportunities to submit written comments on the Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument Draft RMP/EIS. All meetings and any other public involvement activities will be announced at least 15 days in advance through public notices, media news releases, or mailings. In addition, information regarding the public meetings will be posted on the above planning website.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Singleton

Albuquerque District Manager

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Enclosure